

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1-25 stand rejected. No amendments have been made, and no new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3, 5, 9, 13, and 15-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choquier, et al., U.S. Patent 5,951,694 (Choquier), in view of Johansson, et al., WO 99/03036 (Johansson). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Even assuming arguendo that Choquier and Johansson can be combined (a point which Applicants do not concede), the combination does not teach all limitations of the independent claims. Each of claims 1, 13, 20, and 23 has limitations substantially similar to the following limitations of claim 1:

a client device configured to access a first service of the plurality of services by
accessing a service point map on the client device to obtain the corresponding
service address for the first service, and
sending a request for the first service to the corresponding service address for the
first service

The Office Action of September 19, 2005, acknowledges that “Choquier has not taught where the service point map is located on the client device.” (See Office Action dated September 19, 2005, page 5, section 7, first full paragraph.) The Office Action states that “Johansson teaches “an information providing system that [has] the service table located on the client device (Figure 2 items 30 and 52. A service table is viewed as a service point map.)” (See Office Action dated September 19, 2005, page 5, section 7, second full paragraph.) Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants respectfully submit that the service table of Johansson does not teach or suggest a service point map that resides on the client device. The service table of Johansson does not contain service addresses or the equivalent of service addresses. Instead, the service table of Johansson is used by the client device to translate a message from a client platform-specific protocol to an intermediate protocol. (See Johansson, page 7, lines 1-25.) The message

formatted according to the intermediate protocol is then sent from the client device to the server rather than to the specific service. (See Johansson, page 7, lines 11-19.) Applicants respectfully submit that *the address to which the request for service is sent is the same for all RPC services; i.e., the address is the server's address.* (See *id.*)

Upon receiving the message formatted in the intermediate protocol, the server translates the message from the intermediate protocol to the server-specific platform protocol. (See Johansson, page 7, line 16-19.) The server identifies a particular one of the available services that can provide the requested service and forwards the message to the identified service. (See *id.*) In this scenario, only the server has or needs access to specific addresses for the RPC services.

In Johansson, the service table is described as containing items corresponding to services, with the services having keys that are “RPC service identifiers.” (See Johansson, page 6, lines 4-9.) While a key may correspond to a given service, *the key is itself not a service address.* Each key is used not to determine a service address, but instead to find instructions to translate from the higher level language of the client platform A to an intermediate protocol P. (See Johansson, page 6, line 20 through page 7, line 14.) Based upon the requested service, the appropriate translation description is obtained and used to prepare a protocol P-formatted message. (See *id.*) The service table is used to provide the information needed in a particular format and not to find an address for a specific service so that the client device can send the request directly to the service address.

In light of the fact that the service table of Johansson is not used to perform the function of a service point map or to provide service addresses, Applicants respectfully submit that the client device of Johansson is not “configured to send a request for the first service to the corresponding service address for the first service.” The client device does not send a request to a corresponding service address, and could not do so, because the client device does not have a service point map or the service address.

In conclusion, all limitations of the independent claims are not taught by the cited combination of references, and independent claims 1, 13, 20, and 23 are allowable for at least

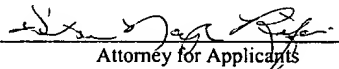
this reason. Respective dependent claims 2-12, 14-19, 21-22, and 24-25 are also allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choquier in view of Johansson, in further view of Bartle et al., U.S. Patent 6,188,888 (Bartle). Each of claims 10-12 depends from independent claim 1, which has been shown to be allowable over the combination of Choquier and Johansson. Consequently, each of claims 10-12 is allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

CONCLUSION

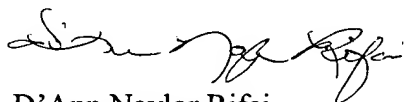
In view of the remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5086.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 19, 2005.


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12/19/05
Date of Signature

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